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CURRENT LITERATURE.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Plants in their haunts.

ALMOST simultaneously three attractive books have appeared, having for their mission the acquaintance of laymen and amateurs with plants in their natural field relations.¹ *Flowers and ferns in their haunts* is a particularly attractive volume, the full page engravings being unusually clear and true to nature, while at the same time they are artistic gems. The chapters introduce the reader to various topics, from the coming of spring to the aftermath, and many of the topics bring out various ecological features in a purely non-technical manner. Some of the more suggestive chapter headings in this regard are "Along the waterways," "Poisonous plants," "In silent woods," "Flowers of the sun," "Wayfarers."

Our ferns in their haunts, by the well-known student of ferns, Willard N. Clute, aims to present ferns to beginners and fern-lovers in such a way that they will learn to know them easily and yet in a scientific manner. The book is profusely illustrated and contains very much more detailed accounts of both structure and habitat than are to be found in the ordinary manuals. Much in the way of folk lore is added as well. The keys and glossary seem so well gotten together that the identification of ferns must surely be made easier than that of seed plants.

With the wild flowers is a neat little volume that has attained a second edition. It does not stick too closely to scientific facts at all points, as in the cut showing leaf structure. One could wish also that such small and relatively harmless plants as the sun-dew were not included under the blood-curdling title of "ogre-flowers." The impersonation of plants is carried to an extreme and even hurtful degree in this volume.—H. C. COWLES.

¹WRIGHT, MABEL OSGOOD: *Flowers and ferns in their haunts*. 8vo. pp. xix + 358, with 57 full page photographs and 118 text illustrations drawn from photographs. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1901.

CLUTE, WILLARD N.: *Our ferns in their haunts*. 8vo. pp. xii + 332, with 8 colored plates and 185 text cuts and full page plates. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company. 1901.

GOING, MAUD: *With the wild flowers*. 16mo. Revised edition. pp. xiv + 271, with 55 text cuts and full page plates. New York: The Baker and Taylor Company, 1901.